

I claim:

- 1 1. A method, comprising:
2 cutting a brake pad backing plate out of a sheet having a
3 plurality of discontinuities formed therein.
- 1 2. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the step of cutting a
2 brake pad backing plate out of a sheet comprises cutting a brake pad backing
3 plate out of a sheet having a plurality of protrusions formed therein.
- 1 3. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the step of cutting a
2 brake pad backing plate out of a sheet comprises cutting a brake pad backing
3 plate out of a sheet having a plurality of channels formed therein.
- 1 4. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the step of cutting a
2 brake pad backing plate out of a sheet comprises cutting a brake pad backing
3 plate out of a sheet having respective pluralities of channels and protrusions
4 formed therein.
- 1 5. A method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of:
2 forming the discontinuities in the sheet during a sheet
3 manufacturing process.
- 1 6. A method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of:
2 forming the discontinuities in the sheet during a sheet rolling
3 process.
- 1 7. A method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the step of cutting a
2 brake pad backing plate out of a sheet comprises stamping a brake pad
3 backing plate out of a sheet having a plurality of discontinuities formed
4 therein.

1 8. A method of manufacturing a brake pad, comprising:
2 cutting a brake pad backing plate out of a sheet having a
3 plurality of discontinuities formed therein; and
4 securing a friction pad to the brake pad backing plate.

1 9. A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the step of cutting a
2 brake pad backing plate out of a sheet comprises cutting a brake pad backing
3 plate out of a sheet having a plurality of protrusions formed therein.

1 10. A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the step of cutting a
2 brake pad backing plate out of a sheet comprises cutting a brake pad backing
3 plate out of a sheet having a plurality of channels formed therein.

1 11. A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the step of cutting a
2 brake pad backing plate out of a sheet comprises cutting a brake pad backing
3 plate out of a sheet having respective pluralities of channels and protrusions
4 formed therein.

1 12. A method as claimed in claim 8, further comprising the step of:
2 forming the discontinuities in the sheet during a sheet
3 manufacturing process.

1 13. A method as claimed in claim 8, further comprising the step of:
2 forming the discontinuities in the sheet during a sheet rolling
3 process.

1 14. A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the step of securing a
2 friction pad to the brake pad backing plate comprises molding the friction pad
3 onto the brake pad backing plate such that a mechanical interconnect is
4 created between the friction pad and the brake pad backing plate.

1 15. A method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the step of cutting a
2 brake pad backing plate out of a sheet comprises stamping a brake pad

3 backing plate out of a sheet having a plurality of discontinuities formed
4 therein.

1 16. A brake pad backing plate, comprising:
2 a base member; and
3 a plurality of protrusions extending outwardly from the base
4 member, at least a portion of at least one of the protrusions defining a slanted
5 parallelepiped shape.

1 17. A brake pad backing plate as claimed in claim 16, wherein at
2 least a portion of each of the protrusions defines a slanted, parallelepiped
3 shape.

1 18. A brake pad backing plate as claimed in claim 16, wherein less
2 than all of the at least one protrusions defines a slanted, parallelepiped shape.

1 19. A brake pad backing plate as claimed in claim 16, wherein the
2 protrusions are evenly spaced.

1 20. A brake pad backing plate as claimed in claim 16, wherein the
2 slanted, parallelepiped shape slants in two directions.

1 21. A brake pad backing plate as claimed in claim 16, wherein the
2 slanted, parallelepiped shape slants in two directions that are perpendicular to
3 one another.

1 22. A brake pad backing plate as claimed in claim 16, wherein the
2 base member defines a front surface and the protrusions extend outwardly
3 from the front surface of the base member.

1 23. A brake pad backing plate as claimed in claim 16, wherein the
2 base member front surface is substantially planar.

1 24. A brake pad, comprising:
2 a brake pad backing plate including a plurality of protrusions
3 extending outwardly from the base member, at least a portion of at least one
4 of the protrusions defining a slanted parallelepiped shape; and
5 a friction pad secured to brake pad by the plurality of
6 protrusions.

1 25. A brake pad as claimed in claim 24, wherein at least a portion of
2 each of the protrusions defines a slanted, parallelepiped shape.

1 26. A brake pad as claimed in claim 24, wherein less than all of the
2 at least one protrusion defines a slanted, parallelepiped shape.

1 27. A brake pad as claimed in claim 24, wherein the protrusions are
2 evenly spaced.

1 28. A brake pad as claimed in claim 24, wherein the slanted,
2 parallelepiped shape slants in two directions.

1 29. A brake pad as claimed in claim 24, wherein the slanted,
2 parallelepiped shape slants in two directions that are perpendicular to one
3 another.

1 30. A brake pad as claimed in claim 24, wherein the base member
2 defines a front surface and the protrusions extend outwardly from the front
3 surface of the base member.

1 31. A brake pad as claimed in claim 24, wherein the base member
2 front surface is substantially planar.